

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 DODE-00 IGA-02 /017 W

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R 062013Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO USCINCSO

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0145

S E C R E T SANTIAGO 6510

FOR LTG MCAULIFFEE FROM AMBASSADOR POPPER

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, MASS

SUBJECT: REDUCTION OF MILGP (C)

1. AS YOU KNOW, ON JUNE 30, THE PRESIDENT SIGNED THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE ACT, WHICH IMPOSES SEVERE RESTRICTIONS ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHILE AND REQUIRES (BY AMENDMENT TO SECTION 515 OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961) MAJOR CHANGES IN MILITARY ASSISTANCE ADVISORY GROUPS. UNDER THE NEW LAW IT IS UNLIKELY THAT WE CAN PRESERVE THE USMILGP IN CHILE BEYOND SEPTEMBER 30, 1977. I BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO MOVE NOW TO PUT OURSELVES INTO THE BEST POSSIBLE POSTURE FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS.

2. ACCORDINGLY, IN VIEW OF THE NEW ACT, OUR PREVIOUS DISCUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT, AND MY RESPONSIBILITIES PURSUANT TO PL 93-475 AND SUBSEQUENT PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVES REGARDING PERSONNEL LEVELS OF ALL AGENCIES AT THIS MISSION, I PROPOSE TO RECOMMEND TO THE INTER-AGENCY SENIOR MANAGEMENT REVIEW GROUP A PHASED REDUCTION OF THE SANTIAGO MILGP AS FOLLOWS:

A) BY THE END OF DECEMBER 1976, 6 MILGP MEMBERS WOULD REMAIN, CONSISTING OF:

MILGP CMDR COL (AF)

ADMIN NCO YNC

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ARMY REP LTC

NAVY REP LTC  
LOG OF (LTC)(AF)  
F5 IP MAJ (AF)

B) AS YOU KNOW THE EMBASSY HAS PREVIOUSLY RECOMMENDED THE RETENTION OF A MILGP OF APPROXIMATELY THIS SIZE (SANTIAGO 4701). IF, HOWEVER, THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH SHOULD DETERMINE NOT TO SEEK CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL FOR THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF A MILGP IN CHILE, OR IF THE CONGRESS SHOULD REFUSE TO APPROVE SUCH A PROPOSED MILGP, THEN THE NUMBER OF MILITARY PERSONS CARRYING OUT COMPARABLE FUNCTIONS MUST BE REDUCED TO 3 BY SEPTEMBER 1977. CONSISTENT WITH THE AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 515 CITED ABOVE, I WOULD IN THAT CASE, RECOMMEND THE ELIMINATION OF THE ADMIN NCO, THE F5 IP, AND THE AF LOGISTICS OFFICER.

3. I REGRET THE NECESSITY FOR THIS ACTION. TO CARRY IT OUT WITH MINIMUM FRICTION AND INCONVENIENCE, WE MUST START OUR PREPARATIONS NOW. I AM THEREFORE REQUESTING COMUSMILGP TO INITIATE APPROPRIATE ACTION WITH REGARD TO INCOMING PERSONNEL AND THOSE ALREADY ON STATION. WE WILL KEEP YOU FULLY ADVISED.

4. BEST REGARDS.  
POPPER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, MILITARY ATTACHES  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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